

Message Text

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50 S

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 MC-02 EB-07 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W

----- 036009

O R 291600Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 737

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 2247

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SA, ET

SUBJECT: OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR AMMUNITION AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA

REF: STATE 69497

1. WE RAISED SUBJECT OF AMMUNITION OVERFLIGHTS WITH CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTORATE AND EXPLAINED OUR DESIRE TO EXPEDITE OVERFLIGHT WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE LENGTHY PROCESS OF OBTAINING FORMAL DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE. THEY PROMISED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER AND CALL US BACK.

2. IF WE HAVE NOT GOTTEN A POSITIVE RESPONSE BY OPENING OF BUSINESS TOMORROW MARCH 30, WE WILL RAISE THE MATTER FORMALLY WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. WE WILL EMPHASIZE THE URGENCY OF THE REQUEST, BUT ARE NOT SANGUINE THAT WE WILL HAVE A RESPONSE IN LESS THAN SEVERAL DAYS. IN MAKING OUR APPROACH WE WILL ALSO SAY THAT THE AMMUNITION
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IN QUESTION IS PART OF AND NOT ADDITIONAL TO THE

SEVEN MILLION DOLLAR SALES AGREEMENT WE HAD ALREADY
INFORMED THE SAG ABOUT.

3. U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT HAVE IN THE PAST SOMETIMES
AVOIDED THE PROBLEM OF OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCES BY FLYING
DOWN THE RED SEA OUT OF SAUDI AIR SPACE. UNDERSTAND
THIS WOULD MEAN LEAVING THE AIRLANES AND THAT THERE
MIGHT BE SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVED BUT WONDER IF
THIS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE ALSO IN THE PRESENT CASE.
AKINS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FLIGHT CLEARANCES, AIRCRAFT OVERFLIGHTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975JIDDA02247
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750110-0696
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975034/aaaaadip.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 69497
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 MAY 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <07 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OVERFLIGHT CLEARANCE FOR AMMUNITION AIRLIFT TO ETHIOPIA
TAGS: MASS, PFOR, SA, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006